

REMARKSPriority

The Office Action states on page 3 that the Application is given priority to September 14, 1998. In response, Applicants have amended the specification to include priority to another application that also supports the current claims.

Therefore, the priority objection is believed to be obviated.

Double Patenting Rejection:

Claims 1, 2, 4-6, 12-14, 18, and 22-22 have been rejected under the judicially created doctrine of double patenting over claim 1-4 of U. S. Patent No. 6,627,616 B2.

With this Response, Applicants have filed a terminal disclaimer to overcome the rejection.

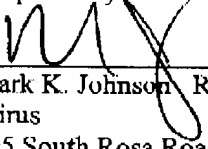
Rejection of the claims under 35 USC §102:

Claims 1, 2, 4-6, 12-14, 18, and 22-22 have been rejected under 35 USC 102(e) as being anticipated by Monahan et al. (US Patent 6,627,616).

Applicants have amended the specification to claim benefit from the '616 patent. Therefore, the §102 rejection should be obviated.

The Examiner's objections and rejections are now believed to be overcome by this response to the Office Action. In view of Applicants' amendment and arguments, it is submitted that claims 1, 2, 4, 6, 12, 14, 18, and 22-22 should be allowable.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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